



PARTNERSHIP TEAM

Fr. Joe Mullan, PP, Moderator
Fr. Peter Ewaoche Johnson, CC
Fr. Fergus O'Donoghue, SJ, PC
Fr. Paddy O'Byrne, AP
Fr. Brian O'Reilly, AP
Fr. Ciaran Egan CC
Sr. Catherine Greene

Church of the Miraculous Medal CLONSKEAGH

Parish Office open Mon, Wed, Fri
9:30am to 11:00 am

Parish Secretary: Sylvia Leonard
Tel No: 01 283 7948
email: clonskeaghparish@gmail.com

Church of St Laurence O'Toole KILMACUD

Parish Office open Mon to Fri
9:00 am to 12:00 noon

Parish Secretary: Christine Mullock
Tel No: 01 288 4009
email: kilmacudparishoffice@gmail.com

Church of St Thérèse MOUNT MERRION

Parish Office open Mon to Fri
9:30am to 12:30pm

Parish Secretary: Vivienne Dempsey
Tel No: 01 288 1271
email: parishoffice@mountmerrionparish.ie
Head Sacristan: Shubert Laxina

COMMUNITY CENTRE

Tel No: 01 288 4485
email: mountmerrioncommunitycentre@gmail.com
SOCIETY OF ST. VINCENT DE PAUL
Helpline 01 884 8200



XELDA QR CODE
Mass Collection
60% CLERGY 40% SHARE

MOUNT MERRION PARISH NEWSLETTER

14th December 2025

3rd Sunday of Advent - Gaudete Sunday

MASS TIME	CLONSKEAGH	KILMACUD	MOUNT MERRION
Weekdays	10:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Liturgy w/ Eucharist		Thursday	Tuesday*
Bank Holidays	11:00am	10:00am	10:00am
Saturday		10.00am	10:00am
Saturday Vigil Mass		6.00pm	6:00pm
Sunday	10.30am	11:30am	10:00am & 7:30pm

A few words from Fr Joe.....

On Monday evening, Mount Merrion will host the Advent Reconciliation Service for the Holy Trinity Partnership. For the past 20 years or more the usual format has been a penance service, with a visiting preacher, and a number of confessors and lasted about 45 mins to an hour. Last year a number of people chatted to me about the length of the service, in the middle of a busy time of year and with winter weather, they felt it was too long, and they were cold before the end. So, taking this into account and in consultation with some other parishes we are changing the format this year. We are simply inviting parishioners to "come and confess" anytime between 7.30pm and 8.15pm. There will hopefully be 7 priests available and all are welcome to come and celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation, take a moment for penance and prayer, and slip away. We hope this might suit parishioners needs, perhaps encourage parents to bring their children and take some of the pressure off confessions on Christmas Eve morning. We hope to have a quiet, reflective environment, a warm church, some gentle music and a peaceful, supportive gathering. Coming to confession should never be an ordeal and we hope to experience the healing love of Christ in this most blessed moment of Grace. Sometimes entering into the reflection about how well we are living our Christian life, recognising things that need to change and seeking reconciliation can be the greatest gift we give to those we love. Please come.

Fr Peter Johnson CC.

Fr Peter went home to Nigeria in the summer to apply for a visa to return to Ireland as a Religious worker. After a long six months of patient waiting the visa has now been issued and very soon he will have a flight back to Ireland and will return to our partnership and carry on his excellent work. We look forward to seeing his smiling face again and enjoying his company.

On Christmas Eve, The Parish choir will sing Christmas Carols from 8.20 or so until the beginning of mass. The performance will include a mixture of traditional, very well-known carols and a few more modern works. All are welcome to come and listen.
It promises to be a lovely occasion.

The Department of Education is currently conducting a Primary School Survey that will determine the future provision of Primary Schools and crucially could lead to lasting changes in your school. In simple, direct terms, you are being asked if you want your school to stay a Catholic school or if you want that to change. Don't leave it to others, have your say before 16 December 2025. The survey can be accessed at www.gov.ie/primaryschoolsurgery/.

Mass Intentions



Saturday 13th December
6.00

Patricia Hussey - 1st A
Mary and Michael Aylward - A
Patrick, Nora, Tristan and Aidan Moran - A
John Dooly - A
Marie and Sean O'Hanlon-A

Sunday 14th December
10.00

Des Smyth - Months Mind
Patrick Donnelly - 61st A
Tony and Evelyn Cassidy - A
Sr. Madeline Maher -RD
Catherine & Thomas Ruxton -R

Monday 15th December

10.00 For all who are ill

Tuesday 16th December

10.00 Liturgy Service

Friday 21st December

10.00 Michael Gordon -A

Saturday 20th December
10.00

Frank Geary -A
6.00
Family Mass
Bridie Smith - 7th A
Desmond & Bernadette Doran -A
Margaret O'Sullivan -1st A
Margaret & Hugh Marron - A

John Marron - A

Michael Doherty - A

Sunday 21st December

10.00

Jim Gibbons - A

Emily Kirwan - A

Theresa Murphy & her husband

Con and her son Conn Murphy-A

Cormac McHenry - 2nd A

Frank Gerry - A

7.30 Laurance Moran- 68th A

OUR JESSE TREE

This year you will notice that our Jesse Tree symbols are a little different - made by one of our parishioners, Jen Trzeciak. The Jesse Tree is a special kind of Advent Calendar that tells the story of Jesus' Family Tree, using symbols and Bible stories. It shows that Jesus didn't just appear and how so many little stories in the Bible lead to one big story - THE COMING OF JESUS. Most of all it reminds us that God keeps his promises, even if they take centuries to bloom and how tiny shoots can grow into the greatest gift the world has ever known. This weekend we begin with: Creation, Adam & Eve, Noah, Abraham & Sarah, Isaac and Jacob. Watch out for fuller explanation leaflets on the tables at the church doors each weekend.

The desert shall rejoice, and blossom abundantly

The readings of this Gaudete ('rejoice') Sunday are full of hopeful joy in anticipation of Christ's arrival. This will bring an end to all sorrow and mourning (First Reading), because through Christ will come salvation and new life (**Psalm**).

In the **Second Reading**, St James calls us to be ready for this arrival. The Lord is near, but to perceive the signs of his coming requires from us both patience and openness of eyes and ears (**Gospel**).

On this third Sunday of Advent and during this coming week, let us imitate the desert coming to bloom. By eagerly receiving the Lord's lifegiving and transformational grace, we will have the strength and courage to blossom abundantly in all the areas of our life.

CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Share the Joy, Spread the Warmth

Please Scan Me

Donate

"Or visit: <https://www.svp.ie/fundraiser/st-thereses-conference-appeal-2025/>

The Annual Appeal is on the
13th - 14th December

The collection remains open until the end of January 2026

Welcome Baby Jesus

DECEMBER 24, 4PM

Take a moment out of your day to reflect on the true meaning of Christmas

- Carols and prayers
- Blessing of the crib (present your Baby Jesus for a blessing!)
- Bring your birthday card for Baby Jesus
- Let us know if you can welcome people in a language of your choice

Family Christmas Mass

DECEMBER 25, 11.30 AM

You're invited!

Loving Memory

Our sympathies to the families, relatives and friends of **Mark Robinson** whose funeral took place here this week.

Rejoice